

REMARKS

The present invention is a receiver and a method of receiving a radio signal. A receiver device in accordance with an embodiment of the invention includes at least two receiving elements S1M-S3M, S1D-S3D for receiving radio signals through at least two respective radio receiving paths; a combination circuit 361 for combining signals received through the at least two different receiving paths by allocating an individual narrow band carrier to each received signal; and a common receiver 36 for processing the combined signals in a common multi-carrier path.

Claims 1, 7-8, 10-11 and 16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 as being anticipated by EP 0 921 646 (Zubrzycki et al). This ground of rejection is traversed with respect to newly submitted claims 21-75 for the following reasons.

Independent claims 21 and 68 substantively recite receiving radio signals through at least two respective different receiving paths, combining signals received through the at least two different receiving paths by allocating an individual narrow band carrier to each received signal; and processing the combined signal in a common multi-carrier path. This subject matter has no counterpart in Zubrzycki et al which does not disclose the claimed allocating an individual narrow band carrier to each received signal which is supported in the third paragraph of page 7 of the present application. There is no basis in the record why a person of ordinary skill in the art would be led to modify the teachings of Zubrzycki et al to combine signals received through at least two different receiving paths by allocating an individual narrow band carrier to each received signal except by impermissible hindsight.

The COFDM decoder of Zubrzycki et al would not be susceptible to modification to decode combined signals received through the at least two different receiving paths by allocating an individual narrow band carrier to each received signal since such signals are already transmitted on a number of spaced carriers at a number of different time intervals as discussed in paragraph [0009] of Zubrzycki et al. With the COFDM process, all antenna outputs are combined into a single signal involving a static delay as discussed in paragraph [0021] which technique is totally different from that set forth in the subject matter of claims 21 and 68.

Moreover, the dependent claims define further aspects of the present invention which are not rendered obvious by Zubrzycki et al.

Claims 2, 6, 15 and 17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Zubrzycki et al in view of United States Patent 6,351,237 (Martek et al). These grounds of rejection have been traversed for the following reasons.

Martek et al has been cited as teaching receiving elements comprising sector antennas adapted to receive signals only from respective predetermined angular sectors, a base station and wherein the signals from/two different sectors is performed by using a common receiver and processing 803. The teachings of Martek et al do not cure the deficiencies noted above with respect to Zubrzycki et al.

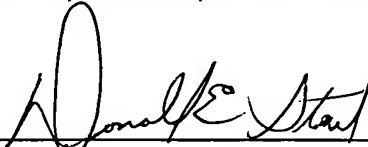
In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is submitted that each of the claims in the application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, early allowance thereof is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, Applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. §1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the

filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (1120.42453X00) and please credit any excess fees to such Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Donald E. Stout", is written over a horizontal line.

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Attachments

DES:dlh